



Introduction

On September 21, 2006, - EPA promulgated revisions to the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for PM_{2.5}

- Lowered the 24-hr standard from 65 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) to 35
- Retained the annual standard at 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



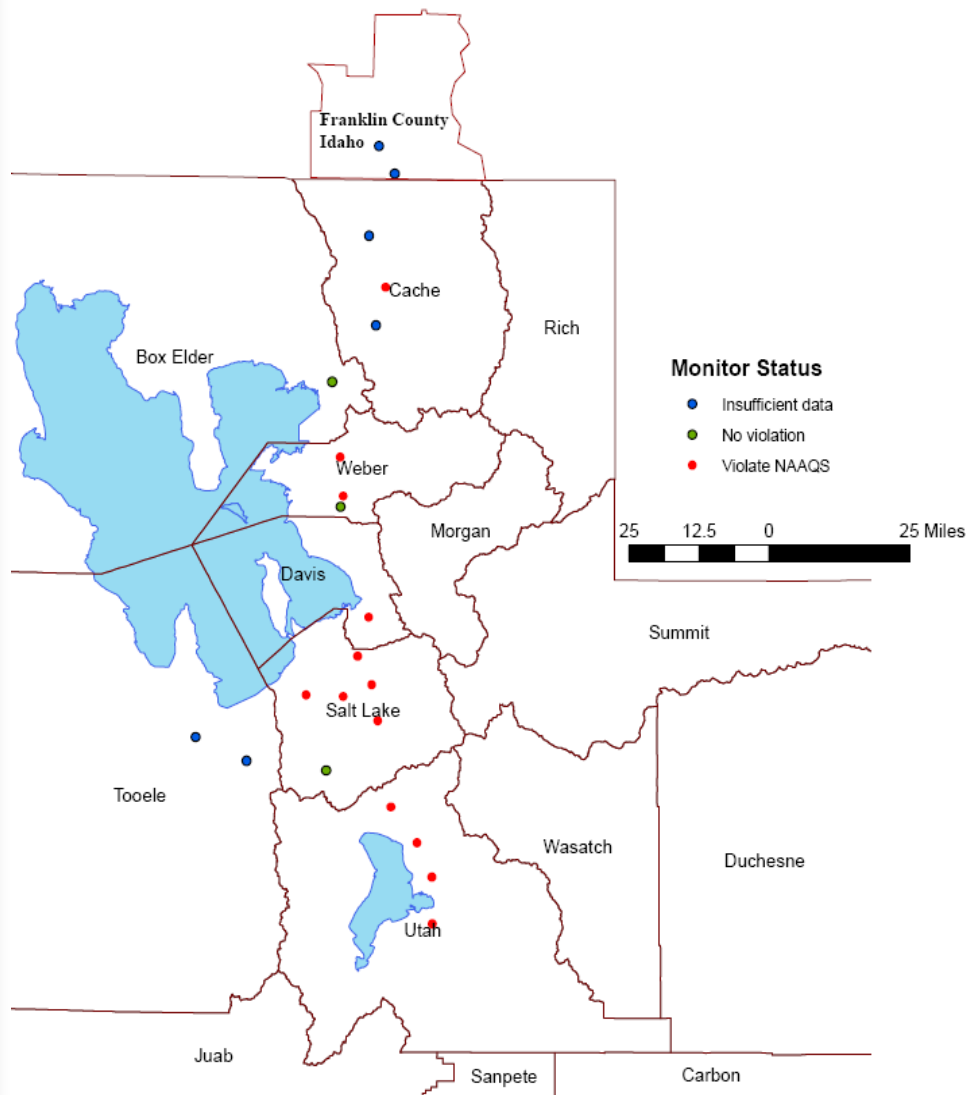
Introduction (Cont.)

The Clean Air Act establishes that States will recommend initial area designations to EPA

Areas may be designated as:

- Attainment - for any area that meets the standard for the pollutant
- Nonattainment - for any area that does not meet the standard or that contributes to a violation in a nearby area
- Unclassifiable – for any area that cannot be classified based on available information

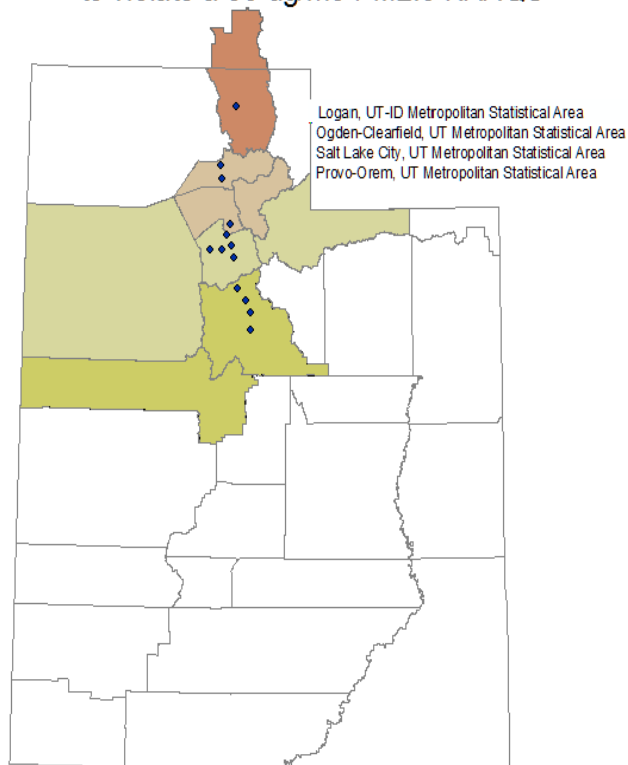
Utah's Air Monitoring Network



Here is a map of Utah's PM2.5 air monitoring network

- Dots are colored to indicate compliance or noncompliance with the NAAQS:
 - **red** means not attaining
 - **green** means attaining
 - **blue** means not enough data yet
- All instances of noncompliance are related to the 24-hr design values

Metropolitan Statistical Areas likely
to violate a 35 ug/m³ PM_{2.5} NAAQS

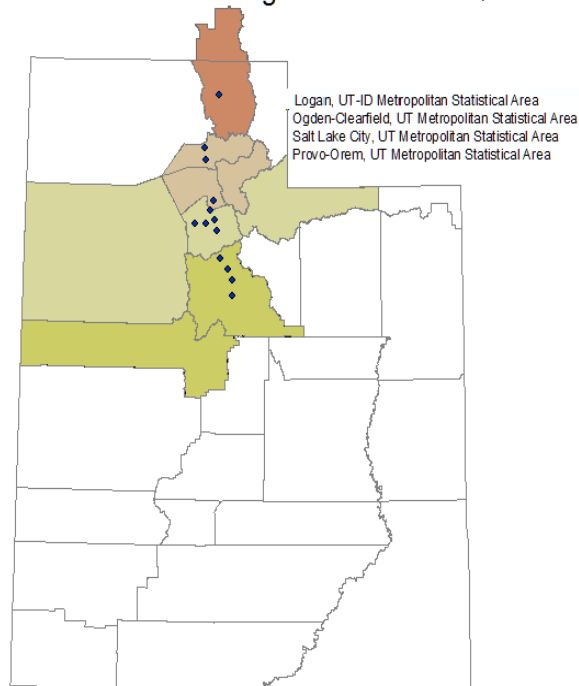


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EPA issued some guidance concerning this process, which said:

- For urban nonattainment areas violating the annual standard, the area boundaries should be based on Metropolitan Area (MA) boundaries.
- For rural nonattainment areas, EPA would presume that the entire county in which a violation was determined should be designated nonattainment.

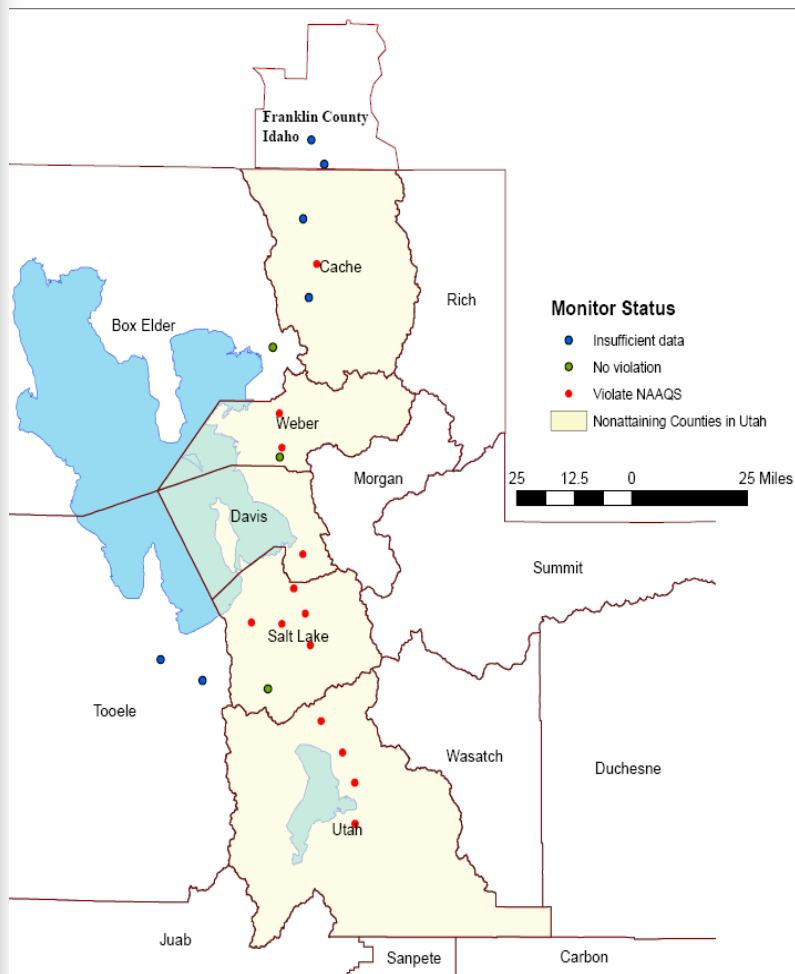
Metropolitan Statistical Areas likely
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Utah Division of Air Quality September, 2006

EPA will consider requests for nonattainment area definitions that differ from the presumed definitions on a case-by-case basis, considering the following nine factors:

1. **Emissions**
2. **Air Quality**
3. **Population density**
4. **Traffic**
5. **Expected growth**
6. **Meteorology**
7. **Geography/Topography**
8. **Jurisdictional boundaries**
9. **Level of control of emission sources**



Utah presently has:

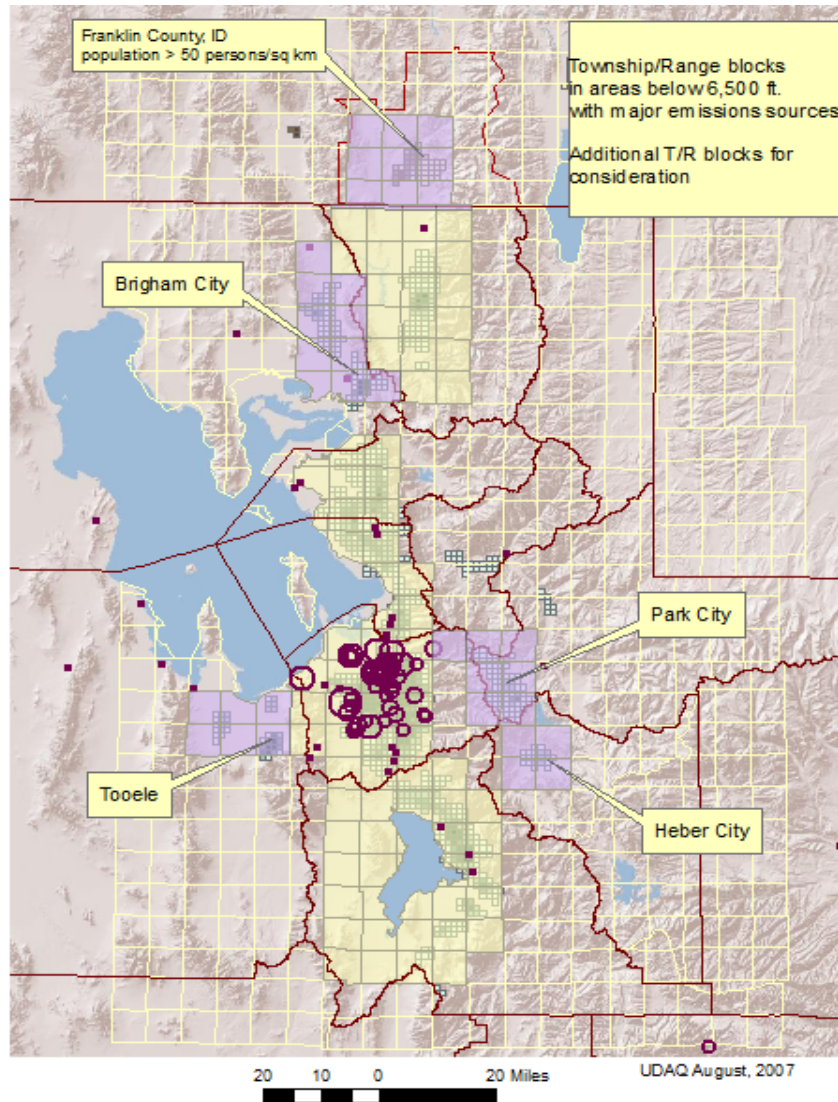
- No urban areas that violate the annual standard,
- Nor any rural areas that violate either standard (annual or 24-hr.)

Therefore,

- There are no presumptions for nonattainment area boundaries.
- In pass cases county boundaries have been used define areas.

However, mindful that there could be a future violation of the annual standard, which default to MSA boundaries

- Utah is using the “nine factor” approach to define its areas of 24-hr nonattainment.
- The “unit of resolution” will be a township.

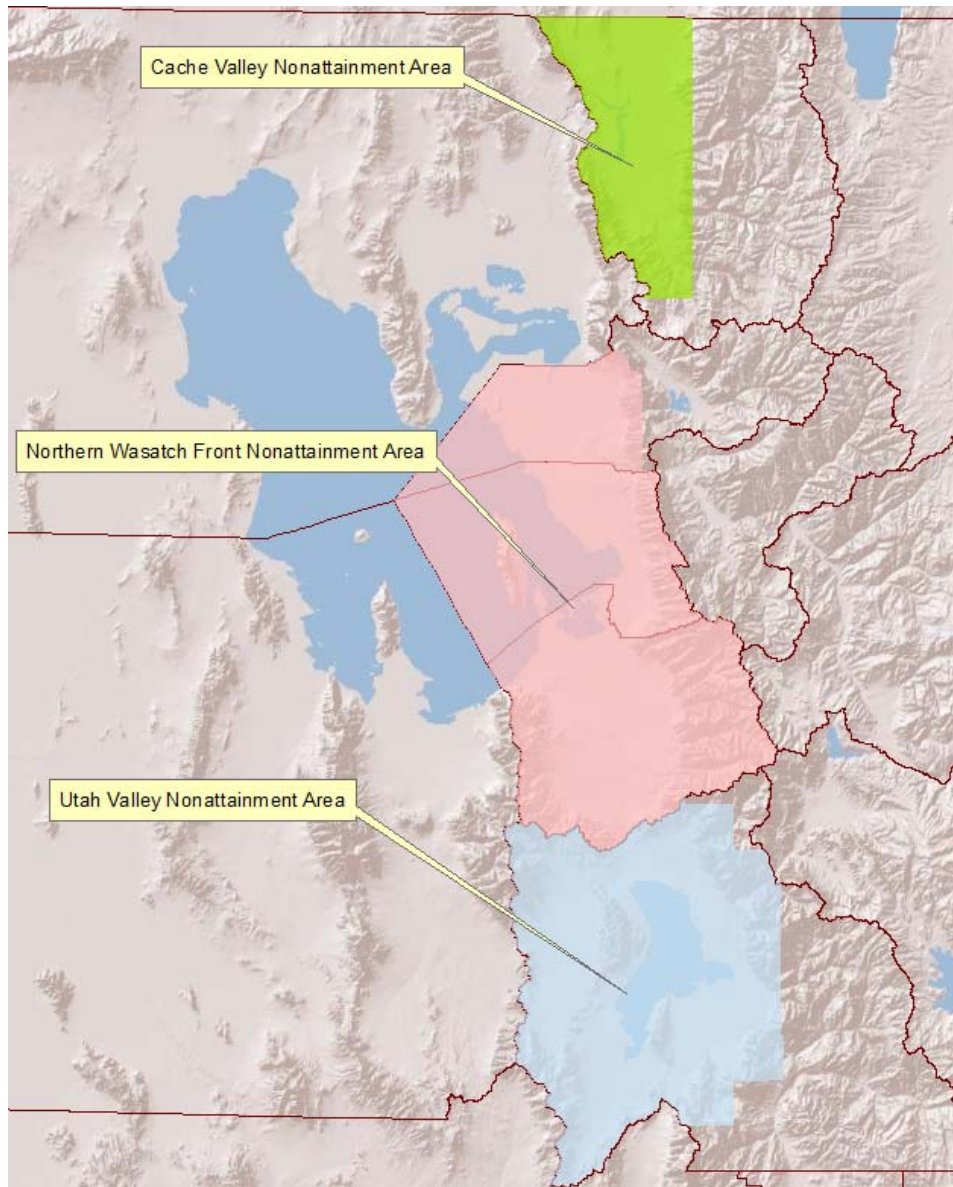


This figure shows how many of the nine factors were considered on a geographic basis. Of particular note are:

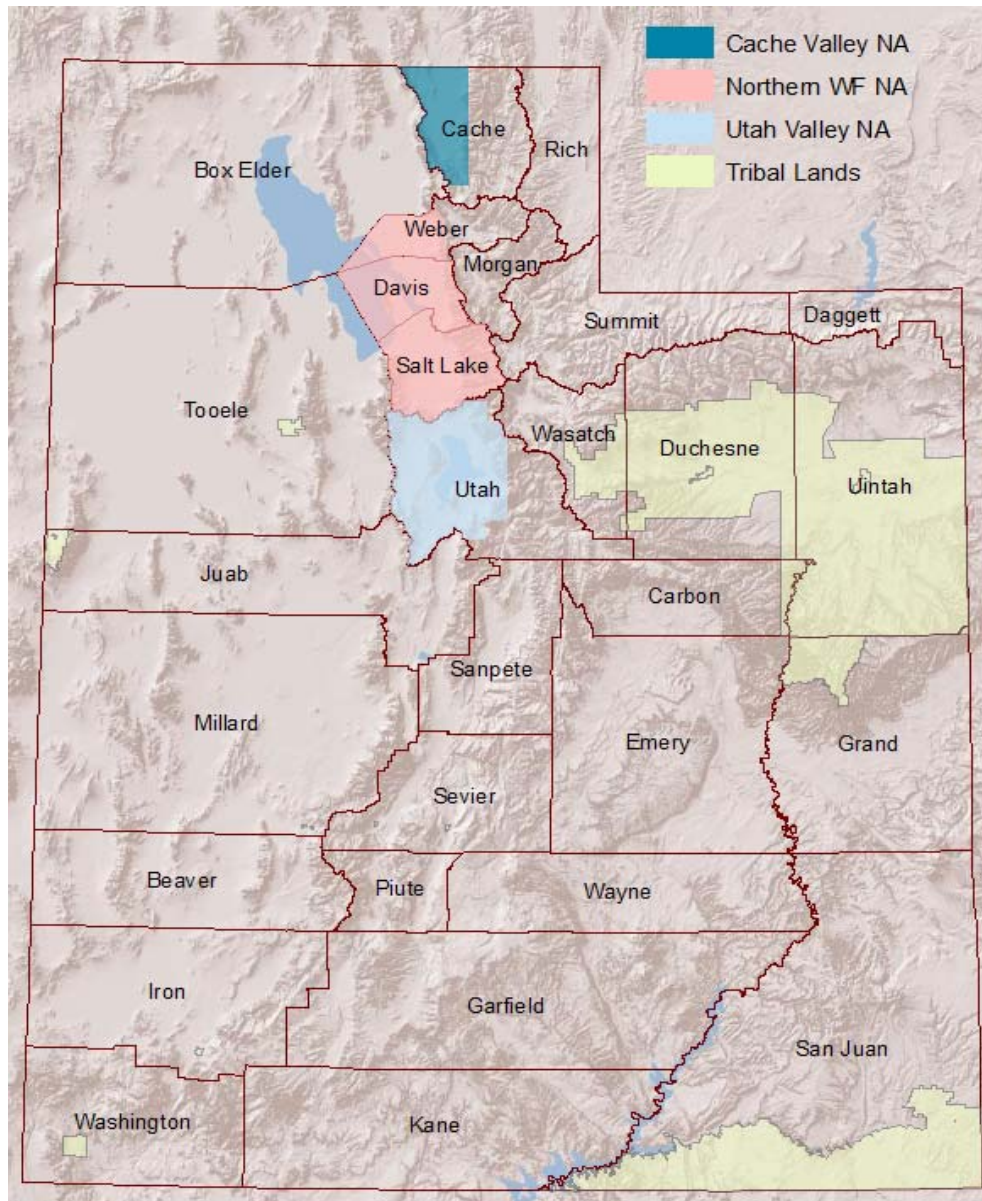
- population
- emissions
- topography
- AQ data

Other areas of interest included:

- St. George
- Vernal



- After giving consideration to the remaining items,
 - Growth
 - Jurisdictional boundaries
- here are the recommended areas of nonattainment
 - Cache Valley
 - Northern Wastch
 - Utah Valley



- Since
- recommendations must be made for the entire state
 - including areas
 - of attainment and
 - areas that are unclassifiable
 - Utah does not make recommendations concerning Tribal Lands



Schedule for administrative process:

- **12/18/07:** State makes recommendation to EPA (one yr from new std.)
- **No later than 12/18/08:** EPA finalizes designations – ASAP, but not later than (two yrs from new std.)
 - If EPA disagrees with State recommendation, it must provide 120 days for State rebuttal
 - Effective date of designations is some time later (about 4 months)
- Transportation conformity applies (12 months following effective date of designations)
 - As early as spring 2009
 - As late as spring 2010
- SIP due (3 yrs from effective date of designations)
- Attainment date (2 yrs after SIP)
 - Possible 5-yr extension of attainment date